The Grapes of Wrath Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

John Steinbeck

READING GUIDE: chapters 14-21

You can print this and fill it out OR open it online (on Canvas or on [www.OlympusBishop.wikispaces.com](http://www.OlympusBishop.wikispaces.com))

You can submit it into the class box OR online (Canvas).

Vocabulary: The following words will appear in the reading IN ORDER. Copy down the phrase in the book where the vocabulary word appears (enough of the phrase or sentence to give a hint at the word’s meaning). Then explain the word’s meaning in your own words (look it up if you want, but still give me a definition in your words!). You WILL have a quiz!

| WORD | PHRASE FROM BOOK | MEANING |
| --- | --- | --- |
| plummet |  |  |
| node |  |  |
| anlage |  |  |
| languid |  |  |
| morosely  (morose) |  |  |
| sullenly  (sullen) |  |  |
| vagrants |  |  |
| querulously  (querulous) |  |  |
| proprietor |  |  |
| vehemence |  |  |
| fallow |  |  |
| imperiously |  |  |
| exhortation |  |  |
| feral |  |  |
| apprehensively |  |  |
| nebulous |  |  |
| goaded |  |  |
| speculatively  (speculative) |  |  |
| belligerently |  |  |
| sardonically  (sardonic) |  |  |
| comporting |  |  |
| disconsolate |  |  |
| servile |  |  |
| agrarian |  |  |
| paradoxes |  |  |
| ravenous |  |  |
| rachitic |  |  |
| pustules |  |  |
| pellagra |  |  |

Reading Questions: ch 14

1. “This is the beginning—from ‘I’ to ‘we.’” After you read the chapter, explain what you think this means.
2. “If you could know that Paine, Marx, Jefferson, Lenin, were results, not causes, you might survive.”
   1. Who are the men listed here?
   2. What do they have in common?
   3. Given the context of the chapter, what does Steinbeck mean that these men are “results” not “causes”?

Reading Questions: ch 15

1. What is Mae like? Why does she act and talk so tough when she obviously has a soft heart?
2. Why do you think Steinbeck included this story? Why now?

Reading Questions: ch 16

1. What are Connie and Rose of Sharon dreaming of doing when they arrive in California?
2. Why does Ma react so wildly to Tom’s proposal? Is it warranted?
3. After hearing bad news from the man at the camp, why doesn’t Pa take his family back home? Somewhere else?

Reading Question: ch 17

1. At the beginning—and end—of this chapter, Steinbeck describes that the migrant people “crawled” and “scuttled like bugs” along their way. Evaluate this simile. How is it true? Think of as many similarities as you can.

Reading Question: ch 18

1. Casy says (to Uncle John, of Ma), “John, there’s a woman so great with love—she scares me. Makes me afraid an’ mean.” Try to unravel this one!

Reading Questions: ch 19

1. This chapter begins with a brief history of California. Condense it further by summarizing the details.
2. Why were the itinerant camps called “Hoovervilles”? Look it up if you don’t know . . .

Reading Question: ch 20

1. The man who comes looking to hire men in the camp accuses Floyd of “talkin’ red, agitating trouble.” What does he mean?
2. As the police lead Casy away “on his lips there was a faint smile and one his face a curious look of conquest.” What’s that all about?
3. Why does Uncle John need to get drunk?

Reading Question: ch 21

1. Again, at the close of this chapter, Steinbeck uses an entomological simile to describe the migrants. Based on the content of chapter 21, and all that has happened since ch. 17, how might the workers be like ants? You should have more to say, possibly a different direction, than what you answered for #8.